

DESE
MASWM Meeting Report
January 22-23, 2008
Jefferson City, Missouri
By
Fulvio Franzi, Director, DESE-EESW

This report is provided to the MASWM Board of Directors and general Membership of the Association on relevant issues and activities of the Extended Employment Sheltered Workshop Section of the Missouri Department of Education. Key topics and activities are as follows:

FY-08 Budget:

The Department has submitted the Supplemental Appropriation to the Governor's Office in the amount of 5.2 million dollars. If accepted by the governor and approved by the legislature, this would fund the Sheltered Workshop program through FY-09 at the rates approved by legislature last year. The Supplemental Request for FY-10 and FY-11 (at the \$1 rate increase per year) will be filed when those fiscal year budgets are proposed.

At the current authorized rate, in relation to current funds available (at the \$13 rate), is projected to have a six (6) week shortfall. If the Legislature approves the \$2.6 Supplemental Appropriation that was submitted by the DESE and supported by the Governor's office, we will have just enough funds in the current (FY-08) budget to meet projected needs.

We are still waiting for IT to complete the necessary changes to the web application page. Please complete the applications as you have been doing until Lindsay Thomas informs you otherwise. If you need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact her. Please remember that the deadline for submittal of state aid requests is at 2:00 PM on the third workday of each month...late submittal will not be paid until the following month!

US Department of Labor-Wage and Hour Division

Please be advised that since the Missouri minimum wage increased from \$6.50 to \$6.15 as of January 1, 2008. DOL is requiring that you conduct a **Prevailing Wage Survey** thirty days after February 1, 2008. If there was an increase from your most recent previous survey rates, you will have to pay that difference to affected employees retroactively to January 1, 2008. If there was no change or a decrease, then no wage changes will be required on your part but you need to make sure that you have all the required documentation necessary to support the data.

You will need to go through the same process when the Federal minimum changes on July 25, 2008.